

PSC NEWS Missouri Public Service Commission

Contact: Kevin Kelly Phone: (573) 751-9300

Governor Office Building, Suite 900

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PSC ANNOUNCES NATURAL GAS ROUNDTABLE

Jefferson City (October 1, 2001)---Properly structured incentive plans for natural gas companies under Missouri Public Service Commission jurisdiction will be the focus of a natural gas roundtable to be hosted by the Commission on October 26, 2001, in Jefferson City. The roundtable session will be held from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. in the State Information Center auditorium at 600 West Main Street.

"The events of the winter of 2000-2001 as well as recommendations made by a Commission Natural Gas Commodity Price Task Force make this discussion both timely and relevant to a number of issues relating to what consumers pay for natural gas service," stated PSC Commissioner Sheila Lumpe. "This roundtable will provide valuable information on incentive plan objectives, structures and concerns. It will also provide us with an opportunity to have an open discussion among various stakeholders," stated Lumpe, who is the Chair of the PSC Natural Gas Policy Roundtable.

The featured speaker for the roundtable will be Kenneth Costello, Senior Institute Economist for the National Regulatory Research Institute (NRRI), Ohio State University. Costello will discuss objectives and structures of incentive plans. A panel discussion will follow along with an open discussion/question period for all participants.

Natural gas roundtables began in 1996 as a forum to provide an open exchange of ideas, opinions and information among various stakeholders. As a consequence, more timely actions are taken and better and more informed decisions are made. Roundtables provide an opportunity for dialogue among the various stakeholders so that we can better serve Missouri ratepayers.